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SOURCE Ta Kung Pao.LIN FENG REPORTS NORTHEAST ACTIVITIES

Lin Feng, chairman of the Northeast Executive Committee, on 21 August gave the following report to the Northeast People's Assembly on the work in the Northeast during the past 3 years:

Support of the People's Liberation Army

The Northeast PLA has in the last 3 years caused 1,230,000 enemy casualties, an achievement which cannot be separated from the broad and active support it has received. In these 3 years, 1,600,000 laborers and farmers have joined the PLA. A large amount of civilian labor, vehicles, and animals were mobilized in the rear areas; hospitals were prepared for the wounded, those killed in action were buried, the army was given comfort, and soldier's families were well treated and their land cultivated. Altogether the record is remarkable. Nevertheless, aid to the army and dependents was not all that it should have been.

Land Reform

In July 1946 the Northeast Bureau of the CCP Central Committee decided to initiate land reform, to arouse the masses, to establish bases, and to attack Chiang and US reactionaries. All levels of the government actively led the people in land reform -- in October 1947 the Central Committee published Principles of the China Land Law. The Northeast Executive Committee at once framed a procedure for putting the law into effect (adapted to local conditions) and the movement was pushed forward. Northern Manchuria finished its land reform by the spring of 1948; in the newer regions of southern Manchuria it was completed in the spring of 1949. According to incomplete figures, more than 37,100,000 mou in northern Manchuria were reapportioned, together with a large quantity of cattle, carts, clothing, and cloth. During the distribution, the farmer masses, especially those of the poor and hired class, were fully aroused, and a good number of the more active came to the fore. In this way a firm foundation was laid for the people's democratic dictatorship, which greatly helped the fighting of the Liberation Army. In land reform, each locality

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basically depended on the middle farmers, but in a short time there appeared leftist errors contravening the policy. These errors were quickly corrected under the guidance of the Northeast Executive Committee. Land reform is the chief example of the new way of life among the Northeast people; land reform is the chief support for victory in the war. The overthrown feudal forces still hope for a reconcentration of land ownership. Recently, special subversive KMT agents have been secretly contacting feudal groups to bring about destruction of these policies. Great precaution must be exercised in this matter.

Economic Reconstruction

In the early stages of the war of liberation, because the most important areas were in northern Manchuria, where industries and cities were few, the chief aim in economic reconstruction was in farm output to guarantee supplies for the war. By July 1948, the Northeast Executive Committee was giving equal emphasis to agricultural and industrial production. After all of Manchuria had been liberated in the autumn of 1948, the center of gravity shifted from farming to industry, from country to city. In 3 years great results have been attained in economic reconstruction.

In farming, there has been great accomplishment. A total of 21,360,000 mou have been restored to cultivation, 94 percent of the total area cultivated in 1946. In 1948, after a move for more intensive farming, the yield per mou was increased. Under certain incentives, acreage planted in wheat, rice, and beans was increased. To encourage industry, the government stressed the cultivation of cotton, hemp, wild silk, and tobacco. Flood control and irrigation have received attention, resulting in an additional 2 million mou of paddy lands. There are 17 tractor farms with a total of 200,000 mou. Organization of farmers varies locally. In these 3 years, farmers have brought in 4,500,000 tons of public grain to support the war and supply the cities, and have given raw materials to industry. While the emphasis has now been shifted to the cities, farming interests must not be neglected. Farming regions must concentrate on increasing production. While the province should care for both farming and manufacture, leadership under the hsien should stress farming and strive to bring the output for the entire Northeast above the 1944 level within the next 3 years.

Educational and Health Activities

During these 3 years we have made a beginning in eradicating the enemy puppet slave education and the poisonous effects of KMT party leadership, and have set up the objective of education in the New Democracy. In the number of schools and students we have already surpassed all previous periods, including the Manchukuo and KMT regimes. Among the students, the proportion of laborers' children has remarkably increased. Winter schools have also been started for adult education. In regard to political and cultural education of Northeast workers, besides the Northeast Workers' Political University, there are also schools and short training classes in every important city. Attention is also given to education of minorities, with instruction at all levels by means of the native language.

In health work emphasis heretofore has been chiefly on war service and, locally, in fighting against plague. In the past 3 years, more than 230,000 persons have been treated for plague, resulting in 85 percent going back to the front lines or resuming production. After the Northeast was fully liberated, 73 health units were set up to go with the army. Beginning with August 1947, we have battled the plague in western Manchuria, with heavy expenditures for all sorts of plague-prevention and treatment measures. Through aid from Soviet Union helpers and technicians, plague prevention has attained large results.

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Social Order and the Administration of Justice

These have functioned successfully in supporting the war effort, administering land reform, maintaining peace, and in powerful attacks on the subversive efforts of special agents of Chiang and US reactionaries. Defects in preservation of social order include existence of unorganized and undisciplined elements, failure to regularize urban public-security efforts, and conditions where public-security officers are bureaucratic and detached from the masses. The administration of justice remains one of the weak links in the government; the new spirit of government by law is still below par. From now on we must sternly repress reactionaries who nullify the people's laws, especially those who obstruct economic reconstruction.

Democratic Political Authority

In the land-equalization movement, the villages organized poor and hired farmer groups and farmer associations, which became the basis of rural authority. In July 1948, the Northeast Executive Committee decided to make its subordinate committees into ministries, thus realizing concentrated leadership and strengthening each level of government organization, at the same time arranging a systematic chain of political authority. By the spring of 1949, most of the base areas had held village and hsien elections. Each province in northern Manchuria had completed village elections by March 1949, and had set up village people's assemblies and village people's government councils (wei-juan-hui). The dominance of hired, poor, and middle farmers has been further solidified, so that authority in the villages is guided by the labor class. Hired and poor farmers are the backbone of village authority, aided by middle farmers and other revolutionary classes. From now on we must continue in the direction of democratic dictatorship by the people; each level of the government should soon call people's assemblies. At the same time each locality must advance its present cadresmen, foster new ones, overcome all unwholesome tendencies, extend the habit of service to the people, and strengthen the ties between government and people.

Policy Toward Minorities

Minority groups in the Northeast -- Mongols, Koreans, Moslems, etc. -- total 2,670,000 persons. Toward these minorities we have maintained a policy of equality and union. Excluding the Mongols, who have set up an Inner Mongolian Autonomous Government, in all places where minorities exist we have established bureaus for work among minorities, respecting their customs, habits, religious beliefs, and spoken and written languages. Because of this, each minority has actively entered into revolutionary and reconstruction work.

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